

[26th August 1926]

## I

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No. 15 on the 4th December 1924.]

1. Starred questions to be put at a meeting of the Council with their answers shall be printed and placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

The Secretary shall call out the name of each interpellator in the order in which the names are printed, specify the serial number of his question and make a sufficient pause to give him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place and putting a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.

2. If a member responsible for a starred question happens to be absent when it is called, it will be open either to him or to any other member to put supplemental questions thereon after the other starred questions for the day have been answered, provided question-time is not thereby exceeded.

3. Questions, not starred, will not be called in Council, but they will be printed with their answers and placed on the table of the House along with the list of starred questions. Oral supplementary questions will not be allowed in regard to unstarred questions.]

## STARRED QUESTIONS.

## Agriculture.

*Appointment of the Principal of the Agricultural College.*

\* 2318 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: With reference to the answer given to question No. 387 asked at the Legislative Council meeting of 8th February 1924, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state whether any senior or seniors were overlooked when Mr. Norris was appointed to be Principal of the Agricultural College, Coimbatore, and if so, how many were overlooked and for what reasons?

A.—The appointment of Mr. Norris as acting Principal from 11th July 1920 to 18th February 1921 and again from 13th April 1922 to 22nd May 1922 was purely provisional and temporary, and it did not involve the permanent supersession of his seniors, four in number.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I find that Mr. Norris was appointed first from 11th July 1920 to 18th February 1921, and then for another equally long period. I want to know the criterion by which these appointments are considered provisional and temporary, and not permanent."

The hon. Sir T. N. SIVAGANAM PILLAI:—"The arrangement was not to be continued, but it was meant to be temporary and provisional."

*Defalcation in the office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture.*

\* 2319 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: With reference to question No. 1147 and answer thereto given on 12th November 1924, will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) whether the investigation regarding the defalcation of Rs. 1,930 in the office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Livestock) has been completed; and

(b) if so, with what results?

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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The total amount misappropriated was Rs. 2,013-5-9. Of this a sum of Rs. 579-3-10 was recovered from the head clerk and he was dismissed from service. The head clerk was also prosecuted and convicted in the Sessions Court and as a result a further sum of Rs. 1,650 was collected from him by way of fine. The Inspector of Agricultural offices who failed to detect the defalcation was reduced to a clerical post.

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"Sir, are these the only people who are deserving of blame in this matter? I deprecate the punishment of subordinates where the heads of departments are liable."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, order. There is no question of this kind."

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"I prefaced it, Sir, by a question whether these were all the people concerned."

The hon. Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"The Deputy Director of Agriculture (Livestock) was also punished."

MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—"May I know how?"

The hon. Sir T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—"His increment for one year was stopped."

### Education.

*Exemption of depressed classes boys from examination fees.*

\* 2320 Q.—MR. R. VEERIAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of boys belonging to the depressed classes who appeared in each district this year and last year for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination;

(b) how many of them were exempted from remitting examination fees in each district last year and this year owing to poverty;

(c) the considerations on which such exemption is granted; and

(d) how many non-depressed classes were exempted from paying or remitting examination fees in each district last year and this year as far as Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination is concerned?

A.—(a) The following statement gives the number of Adi-Dravida and Adi-Andhra candidates who appeared for the examination in 1925 and 1926. Similar figures for the other classes and communities included under the term 'depressed classes' are not available :—

District.	Number of candidates.	
	1925.	1926.
Vizagapatam	1	1
East Godavari	4	7
West Godavari	1	1
Kistna	1	2